

CS425 – Fall 2013 Boris Glavic Chapter 8: Relational Database Design

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Chapter 8: Relational Database Design

- Features of Good Relational Design
- Atomic Domains and First Normal Form
- Decomposition Using Functional Dependencies
- Functional Dependency Theory
- Algorithms for Functional Dependencies
- Decomposition Using Multivalued Dependencies
- More Normal Form
- Database-Design Process
- Modeling Temporal Data



What is Good Design? 1) Easier: What is Bad Design?

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Combine Schemas?

Suppose we combine *instructor* and *department* into *inst_dept*

- (No connection to relationship set inst_dept)
- Result is possible repetition of information

ID	name	salary	dept_name	building	budget
22222	Einstein	95000	Physics	Watson	70000
12121	Wu	90000	Finance	Painter	120000
32343	El Said	60000	History	Painter	50000
45565	Katz	75000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
98345	Kim	80000	Elec. Eng.	Taylor	85000
76766	Crick	72000	Biology	Watson	90000
10101	Srinivasan	65000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
58583	Califieri	62000	History	Painter	50000
83821	Brandt	92000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
15151	Mozart	40000	Music	Packard	80000
33456	Gold	87000	Physics	Watson	70000
76543	Singh	80000	Finance	Painter	120000



Redundancy is Bad!

- Update Physics Department
 - multiple tuples to update
 - Efficiency + potential for errors
- Delete Physics Department
 - update multiple tuples
 - Efficiency + potential for errors
- Departments without instructor or instructors without departments
 - Need dummy department and dummy instructor
 - Makes aggregation harder and error prone.

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A Combined Schema Without Repetition

- Combining is not always bad!
- Consider combining relations
 - sec_class(sec_id, building, room_number) and
 - section(course_id, sec_id, semester, year)
 - into one relation
 - section(course_id, sec_id, semester, year, building, room_number)
 - No repetition in this case



What About Smaller Schemas?

- Suppose we had started with *inst_dept*. How would we know to split up (decompose) it into *instructor* and *department*?
- Write a rule "if there were a schema (*dept_name, building, budget*), then *dept_name* would be a candidate key"
- Denote as a **functional dependency**:

 $dept_name \rightarrow building, budget$

- In *inst_dept*, because *dept_name* is not a candidate key, the building and budget of a department may have to be repeated.
 - This indicates the need to decompose inst_dept
- Not all decompositions are good. Suppose we decompose employee(ID, name, street, city, salary) into

employee1 (ID, name)

employee2 (*name*, *street*, *city*, *salary*)

The next slide shows how we lose information -- we cannot reconstruct the original *employee* relation -- and so, this is a **lossy decomposition**.



A Lossy Decomposition

	ID	D name street city			sal	salary				
	: 57766 98776 :	Kim Kim	Main North	Perryridge Hampton		75000 67000				
	employee									
I	ID name			1		ame	str	eet	city	salary
10777-1108-01 D0010	: 57766 Kim 98776 Kim :					: Kim Main Kim North			Perryridge Hampton	75000 67000
🗙 natural join 🗶										
	ID	name	street	city		sala	iry			
	57766 57766 98776 98776 :	Kim Kim Kim Kim	Main North Main North	Perryrids Hampton Perryrids Hampton	i ze	750 670 750 670	00 00			

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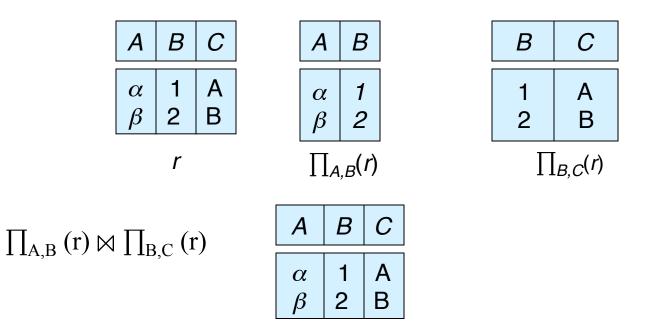


Example of Lossless-Join Decomposition

Lossless join decomposition

Decomposition of
$$R = (A, B, C)$$

 $R_1 = (A, B)$ $R_2 = (B, C)$

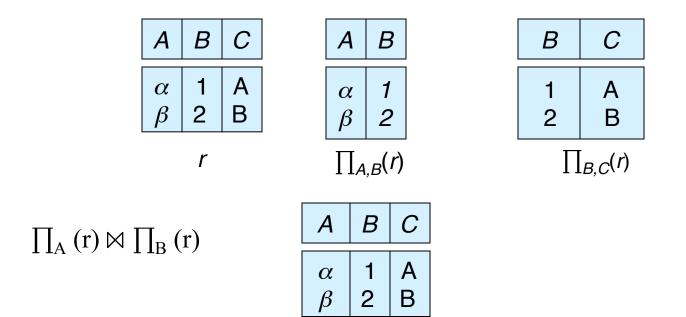




Goals of Lossless-Join Decomposition

Lossless-Join decomposition means splitting a table in a way so that we do not loose information

 That means we should be able to reconstruct the original table from the decomposed table using joins



Goal — Devise a Theory for the Following

- Decide whether a particular relation *R* is in "good" form.
- In the case that a relation R is not in "good" form, decompose it into a set of relations $\{R_1, R_2, ..., R_n\}$ such that
 - each relation is in good form
 - the decomposition is a lossless-join decomposition
- Our theory is based on:
 - 1) Models of dependency between attribute values
 - functional dependencies
 - multivalued dependencies
 - 2) Concept of lossless decomposition
 - 3) Normal Forms Based On
 - Atomicity of values
 - Avoidance of redundancy
 - Lossless decomposition



Modeling Dependencies between Attribute Values: Functional Depedencies Multivalued Depedencies

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Functional Dependencies

- Constraints on the set of legal instances for a relation schema.
- Require that the value for a certain set of attributes determines uniquely the value for another set of attributes.
- A functional dependency is a generalization of the notion of a *key*.
 - Thus, every key is a functional dependency



Let *R* be a relation schema

 $\alpha \subseteq R$ and $\beta \subseteq R$

The functional dependency

 $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$

holds on *R* if and only if for any legal relations r(R), whenever any two tuples t_1 and t_2 of *r* agree on the attributes α , they also agree on the attributes β . That is,

$$t_1[\alpha] = t_2[\alpha] \implies t_1[\beta] = t_2[\beta]$$

Example: Consider r(A,B) with the following instance of r.

On this instance, $A \rightarrow B$ does **NOT** hold, but $B \rightarrow A$ does hold.



Let *R* be a relation schema

 $\alpha \subseteq R$ and $\beta \subseteq R$

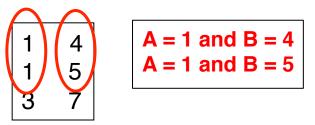
The functional dependency

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 $t_1[\alpha] = t_2[\alpha] \implies t_1[\beta] = t_2[\beta]$

Example: Consider r(A,B) with the following instance of r.



On this instance, $A \rightarrow B$ does **NOT** hold, but $B \rightarrow A$ does hold.



- K is a superkey for relation schema R if and only if $K \rightarrow R$
- K is a candidate key for R if and only if
 - $K \rightarrow R$, and
 - for no $\alpha \subset K$, $\alpha \rightarrow R$
- Functional dependencies allow us to express constraints that cannot be expressed using superkeys. Consider the schema:

inst_dept (ID, name, salary, dept_name, building, budget).

We expect these functional dependencies to hold:

dept_name→ building

and $ID \rightarrow building$

but would not expect the following to hold:

 $dept_name \rightarrow salary$



Use of Functional Dependencies

We use functional dependencies to:

- test relations to see if they are legal under a given set of functional dependencies.
 - If a relation r is legal under a set F of functional dependencies, we say that r satisfies F.
- specify constraints on the set of legal relations
 - We say that F holds on R if all legal relations on R satisfy the set of functional dependencies F.
- Note: A specific instance of a relation schema may satisfy a functional dependency even if the functional dependency does not hold on all legal instances.
 - For example, a specific instance of *instructor* may, by chance, satisfy $name \rightarrow ID$.



- A functional dependency is **trivial** if it is satisfied by all instances of a relation
 - Example:
 - ID, name \rightarrow ID
 - name → name
 - In general, $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is trivial if $\beta \subseteq \alpha$



Closure of a Set of Functional Dependencies

- Given a set F of functional dependencies, there are certain other functional dependencies that are logically implied by F.
 - For example: If $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$, then we can infer that $A \rightarrow C$
- The set of all functional dependencies logically implied by F is the closure of F.
- We denote the *closure* of *F* by **F**⁺.
- F⁺ is a superset of *F*.



Functional-Dependency Theory

- We now consider the formal theory that tells us which functional dependencies are implied logically by a given set of functional dependencies.
- How do we get the initial set of FDs?
 - Semantics of the domain we are modelling
 - Has to be provided by a human (the designer)
- Example:
 - Relation Citizen(SSN, FirstName, LastName, Address)
 - We know that SSN is unique and a person has a a unique SSN
 - Thus, SSN \rightarrow FirstName, LastName



Closure of a Set of Functional Dependencies

- We can find F^{+,} the closure of F, by repeatedly applying Armstrong's Axioms:
 - if $\beta \subseteq \alpha$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ (reflexivity)
 - if $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, then $\gamma \alpha \rightarrow \gamma \beta$ (augmentation)
 - if $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, and $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ (transitivity)

These rules are

- sound (generate only functional dependencies that actually hold), and
- complete (generate all functional dependencies that hold).





$$R = (A, B, C, G, H, I)$$

$$F = \{A \rightarrow B$$

$$A \rightarrow C$$

$$CG \rightarrow H$$

$$CG \rightarrow I$$

$$B \rightarrow H\}$$

- some members of F+
 - $A \rightarrow H$
 - by transitivity from $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow H$
 - $AG \rightarrow I$
 - by augmenting $A \rightarrow C$ with G, to get $AG \rightarrow CG$ and then transitivity with $CG \rightarrow I$
 - $CG \rightarrow HI$
 - by augmenting $CG \rightarrow I$ to infer $CG \rightarrow CGI$,

and augmenting of $CG \rightarrow H$ to infer $CGI \rightarrow HI$,

and then transitivity



Prove Additional Implications

Prove or disprove the following rules from Amstrong's axioms

- 1) $A \rightarrow B$, C implies $A \rightarrow B$ and $A \rightarrow C$
- 2) $A \rightarrow B$ and $A \rightarrow C$ implies $A \rightarrow B$, C
- 3) A, $B \rightarrow B$, C implies $A \rightarrow C$
- 4) $A \rightarrow B$ and $C \rightarrow D$ implies $A, C \rightarrow B, D$



Procedure for Computing F⁺

To compute the closure of a set of functional dependencies F:

 $F^+ = F$ repeat for each functional dependency f in F^+ apply reflexivity and augmentation rules on fadd the resulting functional dependencies to F^+ for each pair of functional dependencies f_1 and f_2 in F^+ if f_1 and f_2 can be combined using transitivity then add the resulting functional dependency to F^+ until F^+ does not change any further

NOTE: We shall see an alternative more efficient procedure for this task later



Closure of Functional Dependencies (Cont.)

Additional rules:

- If $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ holds and $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ holds, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \gamma$ holds (union)
- If $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \gamma$ holds, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ holds and $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ holds (decomposition)
- If α → β holds and γ β → δ holds, then α γ → δ holds
 (pseudotransitivity)

The above rules can be inferred from Armstrong's axioms.



Closure of Attribute Sets

- Given a set of attributes α, define the *closure* of α under *F* (denoted by α⁺) as the set of attributes that are functionally determined by α under *F*
 - Algorithm to compute α^+ , the closure of α under *F*

```
\begin{array}{l} \textit{result} \coloneqq \alpha; \\ \textbf{while} (changes to \textit{result}) \textbf{do} \\ \textbf{for each } \beta \twoheadrightarrow \gamma \textbf{ in } F \textbf{do} \\ \textbf{begin} \\ \textbf{if } \beta \subseteq \textit{result} \textbf{ then } \textit{result} \coloneqq \textit{result} \cup \gamma \\ \textbf{end} \end{array}
```



Example of Attribute Set Closure

R = (A, B, C, G, H, I) $F = \{A \rightarrow B$ $A \rightarrow C$ $CG \rightarrow H$ $CG \rightarrow I$ $B \rightarrow H\}$

(*AG)*+

- 1. *result = AG*
- 2. result = ABCG $(A \rightarrow C \text{ and } A \rightarrow B)$
- 3. result = ABCGH (CG \rightarrow H and CG \subseteq AGBC)
- 4. *result* = ABCGHI ($CG \rightarrow I$ and $CG \subseteq AGBCH$)
- Is AG a candidate key?
 - 1. Is AG a super key?
 - 1. Does $AG \rightarrow R? == Is (AG)^+ \subseteq R$
 - 2. Is any subset of AG a superkey?
 - 1. Does $A \rightarrow R? == Is (A)^+ \subseteq R$
 - 2. Does $G \rightarrow R$? == Is (G)⁺ \subseteq R



Uses of Attribute Closure

There are several uses of the attribute closure algorithm:

- Testing for superkey:
 - To test if α is a superkey, we compute $\alpha^{+,}$ and check if α^{+} contains all attributes of *R*.
- Testing functional dependencies
 - To check if a functional dependency α → β holds (or, in other words, is in F⁺), just check if β ⊆ α⁺.
 - That is, we compute α^+ by using attribute closure, and then check if it contains β .
 - Is a simple and cheap test, and very useful
- Computing closure of F
 - For each $\gamma \subseteq R$, we find the closure γ^+ , and for each $S \subseteq \gamma^+$, we output a functional dependency $\gamma \rightarrow S$.



O(n) Algorithm for Attribute Closure

Data Structures

- Enumerate the FDs and attributes
- int[] c: an integer array with one element per FD that is initialized to the size of the LHS of the FD
- list<int>[] rhs: an array of lists with one element per FD. The element stores the numeric ID of the attributes of the FDs RHS
- list<int>[] lhs: an array of lists of integers, one element per attribute. The element for each attribute stores the numeric IDs of the FDs that have the attribute in its LHS
- set<int> aplus: a set storing the attributes currently established to be implied by A
- **stack<int> todo**: a stack of attributes to be processed next



O(n) Algorithm for Attribute Closure

Algorithm

```
Initialize c, rhs, lhs, aplus to the emptyset, todo to A
```

```
while(!todo.isEmpty) {
   curA = todo.pop();
   aplus.add(curA); // add curA to result
   for fd in lhs[curA] { // update how many attribute found for LHS
       c[fd]--;
                // found a LHS attr for fd
       if (c[fd] == 0) {
           remove(lhs[curA], fd); // avoid firing twice
           for newA in rhs[fd] { // add implied attributes
               if (!aplus[newA]) // if attribute is new add to todo
                  todo.push(newA);
               aplus.add(newA);
           }
       }
   }
```



Canonical Cover

Sets of functional dependencies may have redundant dependencies that can be inferred from the others

• For example: $A \rightarrow C$ is redundant in: $\{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow C\}$

• Parts of a functional dependency may be redundant

• E.g.: on RHS: $\{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow CD\}$ can be simplified to

 $\{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow D\}$

• E.g.: on LHS: $\{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, AC \rightarrow D\}$ can be simplified to

 $\{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow D\}$

Intuitively, a canonical cover of F is a "minimal" set of functional dependencies equivalent to F, having no redundant dependencies or redundant parts of dependencies



Extraneous Attributes

Consider a set *F* of functional dependencies and the functional dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ in *F*.

- Attribute A is extraneous in α if A ∈ α and F logically implies (F - {α → β}) ∪ {(α - A) → β}.
- Attribute A is **extraneous** in β if $A \in \beta$ and the set of functional dependencies $(F - \{\alpha \rightarrow \beta\}) \cup \{\alpha \rightarrow (\beta - A)\}$ logically implies F.
- Note: implication in the opposite direction is trivial in each of the cases above, since a "stronger" functional dependency always implies a weaker one

Example: Given $F = \{A \rightarrow C, AB \rightarrow C\}$

• *B* is extraneous in $AB \rightarrow C$ because $\{A \rightarrow C, AB \rightarrow C\}$ logically implies $A \rightarrow C$ (I.e. the result of dropping *B* from $AB \rightarrow C$).

Example: Given $F = \{A \rightarrow C, AB \rightarrow CD\}$

• *C* is extraneous in $AB \rightarrow CD$ since $AB \rightarrow C$ can be inferred even after deleting *C*



Testing if an Attribute is Extraneous

- Consider a set *F* of functional dependencies and the functional dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ in *F*.
 - To test if attribute $A \in \alpha$ is extraneous in α
 - 1. compute $(\{\alpha\} A)^+$ using the dependencies in *F*
 - 2. check that $(\{\alpha\} A)^+$ contains β ; if it does, A is extraneous in α
 - To test if attribute $A \in \beta$ is extraneous in β
 - 1. compute α^+ using only the dependencies in $F' = (F - \{\alpha \rightarrow \beta\}) \cup \{\alpha \rightarrow (\beta - A)\},\$
 - 2. check that α^+ contains *A*; if it does, *A* is extraneous in β



Canonical Cover

• A canonical cover for F is a set of dependencies F_c such that

- F logically implies all dependencies in F_{c_i} and
- F_c logically implies all dependencies in F_c and
- No functional dependency in F_c contains an extraneous attribute, and
- Each left side of functional dependency in F_c is unique.
- To compute a canonical cover for F: repeat

Use the union rule to replace any dependencies in F

$$\alpha_1 \rightarrow \beta_1$$
 and $\alpha_1 \rightarrow \beta_2$ with $\alpha_1 \rightarrow \beta_1 \beta_2$

Find a functional dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ with an

extraneous attribute either in α or in β

/* Note: test for extraneous attributes done using F_c not F*/

If an extraneous attribute is found, delete it from $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ until *F* does not change

Note: Union rule may become applicable after some extraneous attributes have been deleted, so it has to be re-applied



Computing a Canonical Cover

R = (A, B, C) $F = \{A \rightarrow BC$ $B \rightarrow C$ $A \rightarrow B$ $AB \rightarrow C\}$

Combine $A \rightarrow BC$ and $A \rightarrow B$ into $A \rightarrow BC$

- Set is now $\{A \rightarrow BC, B \rightarrow C, AB \rightarrow C\}$
- A is extraneous in $AB \rightarrow C$
 - Check if the result of deleting A from $AB \rightarrow C$ is implied by the other dependencies
 - Yes: in fact, $B \rightarrow C$ is already present!
 - Set is now $\{A \rightarrow BC, B \rightarrow C\}$
 - C is extraneous in $A \rightarrow BC$
 - Check if $A \rightarrow C$ is logically implied by $A \rightarrow B$ and the other dependencies
 - Yes: using transitivity on $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$.
 - Can use attribute closure of A in more complex cases
- The canonical cover is: $A \rightarrow B$ $B \rightarrow C$



Lossless Join-Decomposition Dependency Preservation

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Theory of dependencies

What is missing?

- When is a decomposition loss-less
 - Lossless-join decomposition
 - > Dependencies on the input are preserved

What else is missing?

- Define what constitutes a good relation
 - Normal forms
- How to check for a good relation
 - Test normal forms
- How to achieve a good relation
 - Translate into normal form
 - Involves decomposition



Lossless-join Decomposition

For the case of $R = (R_1, R_2)$, we require that for all possible relation instances *r* on schema *R*

 $r = \prod_{R1} (r) \boxtimes \prod_{R2} (r)$

- A decomposition of R into R_1 and R_2 is lossless join if at least one of the following dependencies is in F^+ :
 - $R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_1$
 - $R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_2$
- The above functional dependencies are a sufficient condition for lossless join decomposition; the dependencies are a necessary condition only if all constraints are functional dependencies



Example

$$R = (A, B, C)$$
$$F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C\}$$

• Can be decomposed in two different ways

$$R_1 = (A, B), R_2 = (B, C)$$

• Lossless-join decomposition:

 $R_1 \cap R_2 = \{B\} \text{ and } B \rightarrow BC$

Dependency preserving

$$R_1 = (A, B), \quad R_2 = (A, C)$$

Lossless-join decomposition:

 $R_1 \cap R_2 = \{A\} \text{ and } A \rightarrow AB$

• Not dependency preserving (cannot check $B \rightarrow C$ without computing $R_1 \bowtie R_2$)



Dependency Preservation

- Let F_i be the set of dependencies F^+ that include only attributes in R_i .
 - A decomposition is dependency preserving, if

 $(F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \ldots \cup F_n)^+ = F^+$

 If it is not, then checking updates for violation of functional dependencies may require computing joins, which is expensive.



Testing for Dependency Preservation

To check if a dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is preserved in a decomposition of *R* into $R_1, R_2, ..., R_n$ we apply the following test (with attribute closure done with respect to *F*)

• $result = \alpha$

while (changes to *result*) do for each R_i in the decomposition $t = (result \cap R_i)^+ \cap R_i$ result = result $\cup t$

• If *result* contains all attributes in β , then the functional dependency

 $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is preserved.

- We apply the test on all dependencies in F to check if a decomposition is dependency preserving
- This procedure (attribute closure) takes polynomial time, instead of the exponential time required to compute F^+ and $(F_1 \cup F_2 \cup ... \cup F_n)^+$





$$R = (A, B, C)$$

$$F = \{A \rightarrow B$$

$$B \rightarrow C\}$$

Key = $\{A\}$

Decomposition $R_1 = (A, B), R_2 = (B, C)$

- Lossless-join decomposition
- Dependency preserving



Normal Forms

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So Far

Theory of dependencies

Decompositions and ways to check whether they are "good"

- Lossless
- Dependency preserving

What is missing?

- Define what constitutes a good relation
 - Normal forms
- How to check for a good relation
 - Test normal forms
- How to achieve a good relation
 - Translate into normal form
 - Involves decomposition



Goals of Normalization

- Let *R* be a relation scheme with a set *F* of functional dependencies.
- Decide whether a relation scheme *R* is in "good" form.
- In the case that a relation scheme R is not in "good" form, decompose it into a set of relation scheme $\{R_1, R_2, ..., R_n\}$ such that
 - each relation scheme is in good form
 - the decomposition is a lossless-join decomposition
 - Preferably, the decomposition should be dependency preserving.



First Normal Form

- A domain is **atomic** if its elements are considered to be indivisible units
 - Examples of non-atomic domains:
 - Set of names, composite attributes
 - Identification numbers like CS101 that can be broken up into parts
- A relational schema R is in first normal form if the domains of all attributes of R are atomic
- Non-atomic values complicate storage and encourage redundant (repeated) storage of data
 - Example: Set of accounts stored with each customer, and set of owners stored with each account
 - We assume all relations are in first normal form
 - (revisited in Chapter 22 of the textbook: Object Based Databases)



First Normal Form (Cont'd)

- Atomicity is actually a property of how the elements of the domain are used.
 - Example: Strings would normally be considered indivisible
 - Suppose that students are given roll numbers which are strings of the form CS0012 or EE1127
 - If the first two characters are extracted to find the department, the domain of roll numbers is not atomic.
 - Doing so is a bad idea: leads to encoding of information in application program rather than in the database.



Second Normal Form

A relation schema R in **1NF** is in **second normal form (2NF)** iff

- No non-prime attribute depends on parts of a candidate key
- An attribute is non-prime if it does not belong to any candidate key for R



Second Normal Form Example

- $\mathsf{R}(\mathsf{A},\mathsf{B},\mathsf{C},\mathsf{D})$
 - $A,B \rightarrow C,D$
 - $A \rightarrow C$
 - $B \rightarrow D$
- {A,B} is the only candidate key
- R is not in 2NF, because A->C where A is part of a candidate key and C is not part of a candidate key
- Interpretation R(A,B,C,D) is Advisor(InstrSSN, StudentCWID, InstrName, StudentName)
 - Indication that we are putting stuff together that does not belong together



Second Normal Form Interpretation

- Why is a dependency on parts of a candidate key bad?
 - That is why is a relation that is not in 2NF bad?
- 1) A dependency on part of a candidate key indicates potential for redudancy
 - **Advisor**(InstrSSN, StudentCWID, InstrName, StudentName)
 - StudentCWID → StudentName
 - If a student is advised by multiple instructors we record his name several times
- 2) A dependency on parts of a candidate key shows that some attributes are unrelated to other parts of a candidate key
 - That means the table should be split



2NF is What We Want?

- **Instructor**(Name, Salary, DepName, DepBudget) = I(A,B,C,D)
 - $A \rightarrow B,C,D$
 - $C \rightarrow D$
- {Name} is the only candidate key
 - I is in 2NF
- However, as we have seen before I still has update redundancy that can cause update anomalies
 - We repeat the budget of a department if there is more than one instructor working for that department



Third Normal Form

A relation schema *R* is in **third normal form (3NF)** if for all:

 $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ in F^+ at least one of the following holds:

- $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is trivial (i.e., $\beta \in \alpha$)
- α is a superkey for *R*
- Each attribute A in $\beta \alpha$ is contained in a candidate key for R. (**NOTE**: each attribute may be in a different candidate key)

Alternatively,

 Every attribute depends directly on a candidate key, i.e., for every attribute A there is a dependency X → A, but no dependency Y → A where Y is not a candidate key



3NF Example

- **Instructor**(Name, Salary, DepName, DepBudget) = I(A,B,C,D)
 - $A \rightarrow B,C,D$
 - $C \rightarrow D$
- {Name} is the only candidate key
- I is in 2NF
- I is not in 3NF



Testing for 3NF

- Optimization: Need to check only FDs in F, need not check all FDs in F⁺.
- Use attribute closure to check for each dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, if α is a superkey.
- If α is not a superkey, we have to verify if each attribute in β is contained in a candidate key of R
 - this test is rather more expensive, since it involve finding candidate keys
 - testing for 3NF has been shown to be NP-hard
 - Interestingly, decomposition into third normal form (described shortly) can be done in polynomial time



3NF Decomposition Algorithm

```
Let F_c be a canonical cover for F;
i := 0;
for each functional dependency \alpha \rightarrow \beta in F_c do
 if none of the schemas R_{i}, 1 \le j \le i contains \alpha \beta
        then begin
               i := i + 1;
               R_i := \alpha \beta
           end
if none of the schemas R_{j}, 1 \le j \le i contains a candidate key for R
 then begin
           i := i + 1;
           R_i := any candidate key for R_i;
        end
/* Optionally, remove redundant relations */
repeat
if any schema R_i is contained in another schema R_k
     then /* delete R_i */
       R_{j} = R;;
i=i-1;
return (R_1, R_2, ..., R_i)
```



3NF Decomposition Algorithm (Cont.)

- Above algorithm ensures:
 - each relation schema R_i is in 3NF
 - decomposition is dependency preserving and lossless-join
 - Proof of correctness is at end of this presentation (<u>click here</u>)



3NF Decomposition: An Example

Relation schema:

cust_banker_branch = (customer_id, employee_id, branch_name, type)

- The functional dependencies for this relation schema are:
 - 1. customer_id, employee_id \rightarrow branch_name, type
 - 2. $employee_id \rightarrow branch_name$
 - 3. customer_id, branch_name \rightarrow employee_id
 - We first compute a canonical cover
 - branch_name is extraneous in the r.h.s. of the 1st dependency
 - No other attribute is extraneous, so we get $F_C =$

customer_id, employee_id → type employee_id → branch_name customer_id, branch_name → employee_id



3NF Decompsition Example (Cont.)

The **for** loop generates following 3NF schema:

(customer_id, employee_id, type)

(<u>employee_id</u>, branch_name)

(customer_id, branch_name, employee_id)

 Observe that (*customer_id, employee_id, type*) contains a candidate key of the original schema, so no further relation schema needs be added

At end of for loop, detect and delete schemas, such as (*employee_id, branch_name*), which are subsets of other schemas

• result will not depend on the order in which FDs are considered

The resultant simplified 3NF schema is:

(customer_id, employee_id, type)

(customer_id, branch_name, employee_id)



Another 3NF Example

Relation *dept_advisor*:

• dept_advisor (s_ID, i_ID, dept_name) $F = \{s_ID, dept_name \rightarrow i_ID, dept_name \rightarrow i$

 $i_ID \rightarrow dept_name$

- Two candidate keys: *s_ID, dept_name,* and *i_ID, s_ID*
- R is in 3NF
 - ▶ s_ID , $dept_name \rightarrow i_ID s_ID$
 - *dept_name* is a superkey
 - $i_ID \rightarrow dept_name$
 - *dept_name* is contained in a candidate key

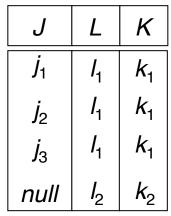


Redundancy in 3NF

- There is some redundancy in this schema dept_advisor (s_ID, i_ID, dept_name)
- Example of problems due to redundancy in 3NF

$$R = (J, K, L)$$

$$F = \{JK \rightarrow L, L \rightarrow K\}$$



repetition of information (e.g., the relationship I_1 , k_1)

(i_ID, dept_name)

need to use null values (e.g., to represent the relationship l_2 , k_2 where there is no corresponding value for *J*).

(*i_ID, dept_namel*) if there is no separate relation mapping instructors to departments



Boyce-Codd Normal Form

A relation schema R is in BCNF with respect to a set F of functional dependencies if for all functional dependencies in F^+ of the form

 $\alpha {\twoheadrightarrow} \beta$

where $\alpha \subseteq R$ and $\beta \subseteq R$, at least one of the following holds:

• $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is trivial (i.e., $\beta \subseteq \alpha$)

 α is a superkey for *R*

Example schema *not* in BCNF:

instr_dept (ID, name, salary, dept_name, building, budget)

because $dept_name \rightarrow building$, budgetholds on *instr_dept*, but $dept_name$ is not a superkey



BCNF and Dependency Preservation

- If a relation is in BCNF it is in 3NF
- Constraints, including functional dependencies, are costly to check in practice unless they pertain to only one relation
- Because it is not always possible to achieve both BCNF and dependency preservation, we usually consider normally *third normal* form.



Testing for BCNF

- To check if a non-trivial dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ causes a violation of BCNF
 - 1. compute α^+ (the attribute closure of α), and
 - 2. verify that it includes all attributes of R, that is, it is a superkey of R.
- Simplified test: To check if a relation schema *R* is in BCNF, it suffices to check only the dependencies in the given set *F* for violation of BCNF, rather than checking all dependencies in *F*⁺.
 - If none of the dependencies in F causes a violation of BCNF, then none of the dependencies in F⁺ will cause a violation of BCNF either.
- However, simplified test using only F is incorrect when testing a relation in a decomposition of R
 - Consider R = (A, B, C, D, E), with $F = \{A \rightarrow B, BC \rightarrow D\}$
 - Decompose R into $R_1 = (A,B)$ and $R_2 = (A,C,D,E)$
 - Neither of the dependencies in *F* contain only attributes from (*A*,*C*,*D*,*E*) so we might be mislead into thinking *R*₂ satisfies BCNF.
 - ▶ In fact, dependency $AC \rightarrow D$ in F^+ shows R_2 is not in BCNF.



Testing Decomposition for BCNF

To check if a relation R_i in a decomposition of R is in BCNF,

- Either test R_i for BCNF with respect to the restriction of F to R_i (that is, all FDs in F⁺ that contain only attributes from R_i)
- or use the original set of dependencies F that hold on R, but with the following test:
 - for every set of attributes α ⊆ R_i, check that α⁺ (the attribute closure of α) either includes no attribute of R_i α, or includes all attributes of R_i.
 - If the condition is violated by some $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ in *F*, the dependency

 $\alpha {\rightarrow} (\alpha^{+} {\mbox{-}} \alpha) \cap R_i$

can be shown to hold on R_i , and R_i violates BCNF.

• We use above dependency to decompose R_i



Decomposing a Schema into BCNF

Suppose we have a schema *R* and a non-trivial dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ causes a violation of BCNF.

We decompose *R* into:

- $(\alpha \cup \beta)$ $(R (\beta \alpha))$
- In our example,

• $\alpha = dept_name$

• β = building, budget

and *inst_dept* is replaced by

• $(\alpha \cup \beta) = (dept_name, building, budget)$

• (R-(β - α)) = (ID, name, salary, dept_name)



BCNF Decomposition Algorithm

```
result := {R};

done := false;

compute F+;

while (not done) do

if (there is a schema R_i in result that is not in BCNF)

then begin

let \alpha \rightarrow \beta be a nontrivial functional dependency that

holds on R_i such that \alpha \rightarrow R_i is not in F+,

and \alpha \cap \beta = \emptyset;

result := (result - R_i) \cup (R_i - \beta) \cup (\alpha, \beta);

end

else done := true;
```

Note: each R_i is in BCNF, and decomposition is lossless-join.



Example of BCNF Decomposition

$$R = (A, B, C)$$

$$F = \{A \rightarrow B$$

$$B \rightarrow C\}$$

Key = $\{A\}$

R is not in BCNF ($B \rightarrow C$ but *B* is not superkey)

Decomposition

•
$$R_1 = (B, C)$$

•
$$R_2 = (A,B)$$



Example of BCNF Decomposition

- class (course_id, title, dept_name, credits, sec_id, semester, year, building, room_number, capacity, time_slot_id)
- Functional dependencies:
 - $course_id \rightarrow title, dept_name, credits$
 - building, room_number→capacity
 - course_id, sec_id, semester, year→building, room_number, time_slot_id
- A candidate key { *course_id*, *sec_id*, *semester*, *year*}.
- BCNF Decomposition:
 - $course_id \rightarrow title, dept_name, credits holds$
 - but course_id is not a superkey.
 - We replace *class* by:
 - course(course_id, title, dept_name, credits)
 - class-1 (course_id, sec_id, semester, year, building, room_number, capacity, time_slot_id)



BCNF Decomposition (Cont.)

course is in BCNF

- How do we know this?
- *building*, *room_number→capacity* holds on *class-1*
 - but {*building*, *room_number*} is not a superkey for *class-1*.
 - We replace *class-1* by:
 - classroom (building, room_number, capacity)
 - section (course_id, sec_id, semester, year, building, room_number, time_slot_id)

classroom and section are in BCNF.



BCNF and Dependency Preservation

It is not always possible to get a BCNF decomposition that is dependency preserving

$$R = (J, K, L)$$

$$F = \{JK \rightarrow L$$

$$L \rightarrow K\}$$

Two candidate keys = JK and JL

- *R* is not in BCNF
- Any decomposition of *R* will fail to preserve

 $JK \rightarrow L$

This implies that testing for $JK \rightarrow L$ requires a join



How good is BCNF?

- There are database schemas in BCNF that do not seem to be sufficiently normalized
- Consider a relation

inst_info (ID, child_name, phone)

 where an instructor may have more than one phone and can have multiple children

ID	child_name	phone
99999	David	512-555-1234
99999	David	512-555-4321
99999	William	512-555-1234
99999	Willian	512-555-4321

inst_info



How good is BCNF? (Cont.)

- There are no non-trivial functional dependencies and therefore the relation is in BCNF
- Insertion anomalies i.e., if we add a phone 981-992-3443 to 99999, we need to add two tuples

(99999, David, 981-992-3443) (99999, William, 981-992-3443)



How good is BCNF? (Cont.)

Therefore, it is better to decompose *inst_info* into:

ID	child_name
99999	David
99999	David
99999	William
99999	Willian

IDphoneinst_phone99999512-555-123499999512-555-432199999512-555-123499999512-555-123499999512-555-43219999999999

This suggests the need for higher normal forms, such as Fourth Normal Form (4NF), which we shall see later.

inst_child



Comparison of BCNF and 3NF

It is always possible to decompose a relation into a set of relations that are in 3NF such that:

- the decomposition is lossless
- the dependencies are preserved
- It is always possible to decompose a relation into a set of relations that are in BCNF such that:
 - the decomposition is lossless
 - it may not be possible to preserve dependencies.



Summary Normal Forms

BCNF -> 3NF -> 2NF -> 1NF

1NF

• atomic attributes

2NF

 no non-trivial dependencies of non-prime attributes on parts of the key

3NF

no transitive non-trivial dependencies on the key

BCNF

only non-trivial dependencies on a superkey



Design Goals Revisited

Goal for a relational database design is:

- BCNF.
- Lossless join.
- Dependency preservation.
- If we cannot achieve this, we accept one of
 - Lack of dependency preservation
 - Redundancy due to use of 3NF
- Interestingly, SQL does not provide a direct way of specifying functional dependencies other than superkeys.

Can specify FDs using assertions, but they are expensive to test, (and currently not supported by any of the widely used databases!)

Even if we had a dependency preserving decomposition, using SQL we would not be able to efficiently test a functional dependency whose left hand side is not a key.



Multivalued Dependencies and 4NF, 5NF

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Multivalued Dependencies

Suppose we record names of children, and phone numbers for instructors:

- inst_child(ID, child_name)
- inst_phone(ID, phone_number)

If we were to combine these schemas to get

inst_info(ID, child_name, phone_number)

Example data: (99999, David, 512-555-1234) (99999, David, 512-555-4321) (99999, William, 512-555-1234) (99999, William, 512-555-4321)

This relation is in BCNF

• Why?



Multivalued Dependencies (MVDs)

Let *R* be a relation schema and let $\alpha \subseteq R$ and $\beta \subseteq R$. The **multivalued dependency**

 $\alpha \mathbin{\twoheadrightarrow} \beta$

holds on *R* if in any legal relation r(R), for all pairs for tuples t_1 and t_2 in *r* such that $t_1[\alpha] = t_2[\alpha]$, there exist tuples t_3 and t_4 in *r* such that:

$$\begin{array}{l} t_1[\alpha] = t_2[\alpha] = t_3 \ [\alpha] = t_4 \ [\alpha] \\ t_3[\beta] &= t_1 \ [\beta] \\ t_3[R - \beta] = t_2[R - \beta] \\ t_4[\beta] &= t_2[\beta] \\ t_4[R - \beta] = t_1[R - \beta] \end{array}$$



MVD (Cont.)

Tabular representation of $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$

_	α	β	$R-\alpha-\beta$
t_1	$a_1 \dots a_i$	$a_{i+1} \dots a_j$	$a_{j+1} \dots a_n$
t_2	$a_1 \dots a_i$	$b_{i+1} \dots b_j$	$b_{j+1} \dots b_n$
t_3	$a_1 \dots a_i$	$a_{i+1} \dots a_j$	$b_{j+1} \dots b_n$
t_4	$a_1 \dots a_i$	$b_{i+1} \dots b_j$	$a_{j+1} \dots a_n$





Let *R* be a relation schema with a set of attributes that are partitioned into 3 nonempty subsets.

We say that $Y \rightarrow Z(Y$ multidetermines Z) if and only if for all possible relations r(R)

$$< y_1, z_1, w_1 > \in r \text{ and } < y_1, z_2, w_2 > \in r$$

then

$$< y_1, z_1, w_2 > \in r \text{ and } < y_1, z_2, w_1 > \in r$$

Note that since the behavior of Z and W are identical it follows that $Y \rightarrow Z$ if $Y \rightarrow W$



Example (Cont.)

In our example:

 $ID \rightarrow \rightarrow child_name$ $ID \rightarrow \rightarrow phone_number$

The above formal definition is supposed to formalize the notion that given a particular value of Y (ID) it has associated with it a set of values of Z (child_name) and a set of values of W (phone_number), and these two sets are in some sense independent of each other.

Note:

- If $Y \rightarrow Z$ then $Y \rightarrow Z$
- Indeed we have (in above notation) $Z_1 = Z_2$ The claim follows.



Use of Multivalued Dependencies

We use multivalued dependencies in two ways:

- 1. To test relations to **determine** whether they are legal under a given set of functional and multivalued dependencies
- 2. To specify **constraints** on the set of legal relations. We shall thus concern ourselves *only* with relations that satisfy a given set of functional and multivalued dependencies.
- If a relation *r* fails to satisfy a given multivalued dependency, we can construct a relations r' that does satisfy the multivalued dependency by adding tuples to *r*.



Theory of MVDs

- From the definition of multivalued dependency, we can derive the following rule:
 - If $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$

That is, every functional dependency is also a multivalued dependency

- The **closure** D^+ of *D* is the set of all functional and multivalued dependencies logically implied by *D*.
 - We can compute D⁺ from D, using the formal definitions of functional dependencies and multivalued dependencies.
 - We can manage with such reasoning for very simple multivalued dependencies, which seem to be most common in practice
 - For complex dependencies, it is better to reason about sets of dependencies using a system of inference rules (see Appendix C).





Fourth Normal Form

A relation schema *R* is in **4NF** with respect to a set *D* of functional and multivalued dependencies if for all multivalued dependencies in D^+ of the form $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, where $\alpha \subseteq R$ and $\beta \subseteq R$, at least one of the following hold:

• $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is trivial (i.e., $\beta \subseteq \alpha$ or $\alpha \cup \beta = R$)

- α is a superkey for schema *R*
- If a relation is in 4NF it is in BCNF

Restriction of Multivalued Dependencies

The restriction of D to R_i is the set D_i consisting of

- All functional dependencies in D⁺ that include only attributes of R_i
- All multivalued dependencies of the form

 $\alpha \rightarrow (\beta \cap R_i)$

where $\alpha \subseteq \mathsf{R}_i$ and $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is in D⁺



4NF Decomposition Algorithm

```
result: = {R};
done := false;
compute D<sup>+</sup>;
Let D_i denote the restriction of D^+ to R_i
while (not done)
   if (there is a schema \mathbf{R}_i in result that is not in 4NF) then
      begin
        let \alpha \rightarrow \beta be a nontrivial multivalued dependency that holds
          on R_i such that \alpha \rightarrow R_i is not in D_i, and \alpha \cap \beta = \phi;
        result := (result - R_i) \cup (R_i - \beta) \cup (\alpha, \beta);
      end
   else done:= true;
```

Note: each R_i is in 4NF, and decomposition is lossless-join





a) $R_1 = (A, B)$ $(R_1 \text{ is in 4NF})$ b) $R_2 = (A, C, G, H, I)$ $(R_2 \text{ is not in 4NF, decompose into R_3 and R_4)$ c) $R_3 = (C, G, H)$ $(R_3 \text{ is in 4NF})$ d) $R_4 = (A, C, G, I)$ $(R_4 \text{ is not in 4NF, decompose into R_5 and R_6)}$ • $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow HI \Rightarrow A \rightarrow HI$, (MVD transitivity), and• and hence $A \rightarrow I$ (MVD restriction to R_4)e) $R_5 = (A, I)$ $(R_5 \text{ is in 4NF})$ f) $R_6 = (A, C, G)$ $(R_6 \text{ is in 4NF})$



Further Normal Forms

- Join dependencies generalize multivalued dependencies
 - lead to project-join normal form (PJNF) (also called fifth normal form)
- A class of even more general constraints, leads to a normal form called domain-key normal form.
- Problem with these generalized constraints: are hard to reason with, and no set of sound and complete set of inference rules exists.
- Hence rarely used



Final Thoughts on Design Process

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Overall Database Design Process

- We have assumed schema *R* is given
 - R could have been generated when converting an ER diagram to a set of tables.
 - *R* could have been a single relation containing *all* attributes that are of interest (called **universal relation**).
 - Normalization breaks *R* into smaller relations.
 - R could have been the result of some ad hoc design of relations, which we then test/convert to normal form.



ER Model and Normalization

- When an ER diagram is carefully designed, identifying all entities correctly, the tables generated from the ER diagram should not need further normalization.
- However, in a real (imperfect) design, there can be functional dependencies from non-key attributes of an entity to other attributes of the entity

 Example: an *employee* entity with attributes *department_name* and *building*, and a functional dependency *department_name→ building*

- Good design would have made department an entity
- Functional dependencies from non-key attributes of a relationship set possible, but rare --- most relationships are binary



Denormalization for Performance

May want to use non-normalized schema for performance

- For example, displaying prereqs along with course_id, and title requires join of course with prereq
- Alternative 1: Use denormalized relation containing attributes of *course* as well as *prereq* with all above attributes
 - faster lookup
 - extra space and extra execution time for updates
 - extra coding work for programmer and possibility of error in extra code
- Alternative 2: use a materialized view defined as

course prereq

 Benefits and drawbacks same as above, except no extra coding work for programmer and avoids possible errors



Other Design Issues

Some aspects of database design are not caught by normalization

Examples of bad database design, to be avoided:

Instead of *earnings* (*company_id, year, amount*), use

- earnings_2004, earnings_2005, earnings_2006, etc., all on the schema (company_id, earnings).
 - Above are in BCNF, but make querying across years difficult and needs new table each year
- company_year (company_id, earnings_2004, earnings_2005, earnings_2006)
 - Also in BCNF, but also makes querying across years difficult and requires new attribute each year.
 - Is an example of a crosstab, where values for one attribute become column names
 - Used in spreadsheets, and in data analysis tools





Functional and Multi-valued Dependencies

- Axioms
- Closure
- Minimal Cover
- Attribute Closure
- Redundancy and lossless decomposition
 - Normal-Forms
 - 1NF, 2NF, 3NF
 - BCNF
 - 4NF, 5NF



End of Chapter

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Proof of Correctness of 3NF Decomposition Algorithm

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Correctness of 3NF Decomposition Algorithm

- SNF decomposition algorithm is dependency preserving (since there is a relation for every FD in F_c)
- Decomposition is lossless
 - A candidate key (C) is in one of the relations R_i in decomposition
 - Closure of candidate key under F_c must contain all attributes in R.
 - Follow the steps of attribute closure algorithm to show there is only one tuple in the join result for each tuple in R_i



Correctness of 3NF Decomposition Algorithm (Cont'd.)

Claim: if a relation R_i is in the decomposition generated by the above algorithm, then R_i satisfies 3NF.

- Let R_i be generated from the dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$
- Let $\gamma \rightarrow B$ be any non-trivial functional dependency on R_{i} . (We need only consider FDs whose right-hand side is a single attribute.)
- Now, *B* can be in either β or α but not in both. Consider each case separately.



Correctness of 3NF Decomposition (Cont'd.)

Case 1: If B in β :

- If γ is a superkey, the 2nd condition of 3NF is satisfied
- Otherwise α must contain some attribute not in γ
- Since $\gamma \rightarrow B$ is in F^+ it must be derivable from F_c , by using attribute closure on γ .
- Attribute closure not have used α →β. If it had been used, α must be contained in the attribute closure of γ, which is not possible, since we assumed γ is not a superkey.
- Now, using $\alpha \rightarrow (\beta \{B\})$ and $\gamma \rightarrow B$, we can derive $\alpha \rightarrow B$ (since $\gamma \subseteq \alpha \beta$, and $B \notin \gamma$ since $\gamma \rightarrow B$ is non-trivial)
- Then, *B* is extraneous in the right-hand side of $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$; which is not possible since $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is in F_c.
- Thus, if *B* is in β then γ must be a superkey, and the second condition of 3NF must be satisfied.



Correctness of 3NF Decomposition (Cont'd.)

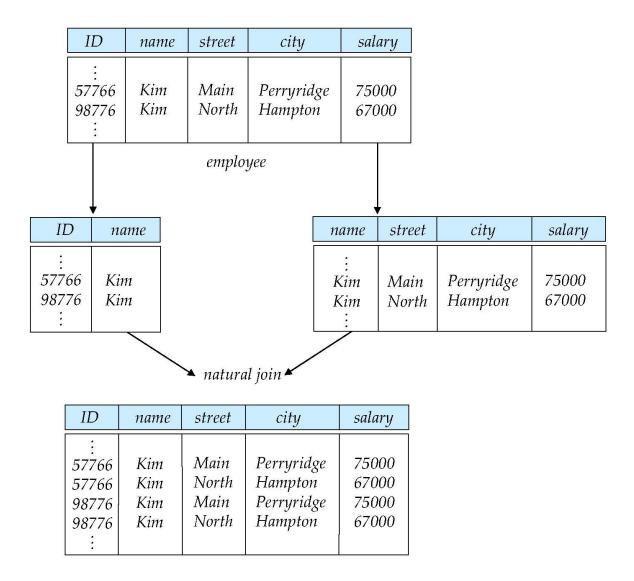
- Case 2: *B* is in α .
 - Since α is a candidate key, the third alternative in the definition of 3NF is trivially satisfied.
 - In fact, we cannot show that γ is a superkey.
 - This shows exactly why the third alternative is present in the definition of 3NF.

Q.E.D.



ID	name	salary	dept_name	building	budget
22222	Einstein	95000	Physics	Watson	70000
12121	Wu	90000	Finance	Painter	120000
32343	El Said	60000	History	Painter	50000
45565	Katz	75000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
98345	Kim	80000	Elec. Eng.	Taylor	85000
76766	Crick	72000	Biology	Watson	90000
10101	Srinivasan	65000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
58583	Califieri	62000	History	Painter	50000
83821	Brandt	92000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
15151	Mozart	40000	Music	Packard	80000
33456	Gold	87000	Physics	Watson	70000
76543	Singh	80000	Finance	Painter	120000





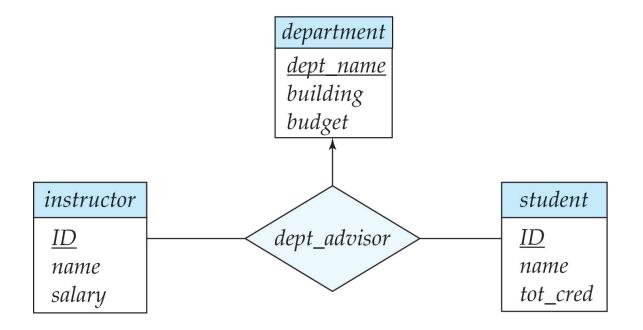


Α	В	С	D
<i>a</i> ₁	<i>b</i> ₁	<i>C</i> ₁	<i>d</i> ₁
<i>a</i> ₁	b_2	<i>C</i> ₁	d_2
<i>a</i> ₂	b_2	<i>C</i> ₂	d_2
<i>a</i> ₂	b_3	<i>C</i> ₂	d_3
a ₃	b_3	<i>c</i> ₂	d_4



building	room_number	capacity
Packard	101	500
Painter	514	10
Taylor	3128	70
Watson	100	30
Watson	120	50







dept_name	ID	street	city
Physics	22222	North	Rye
Physics	22222	Main	Manchester
Finance	12121	Lake	Horseneck



dept_name	ID	street	city
Physics	22222	North	Rye
Math	22222	Main	Manchester



A	В	С
<i>a</i> ₁	b_1	<i>c</i> ₁
<i>a</i> ₁	b_1	<i>C</i> ₂
<i>a</i> ₂	b_1	<i>C</i> ₁
<i>a</i> ₂	b_1	C ₃